

## Indian Chieftain.

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ANNOUNCEMENT.

We are authorized to announce Mr. Gideon Morgan, as a candidate on the independent ticket, for Judge of the Northern District Circuit.

An endeavor to form a barbed wire "combine" at Chicago last week failed. Let us hope future attempts will result similarly.

There was a report—though a difficult one to believe—last week, that 75,000 head of cattle were to be placed upon the Cherokee strip. Of course the home seekers in the vicinity of Arkansas City were "up in arms" instantly.

The meeting of the disaffected members of both political parties took place at Tahlequah this week but as yet a report of their doings has not been received. As it is a move of the politicians and not the people, little good can be expected to result.

Dr. Hicks' central "danger days" for March are 8, 9, 13, 19, 20, 29, 30, 31, with reactionary storms 1, 2, 7, 13, 14, 24. From the 7th to the 11th, rain, lightning and thunder, and possible cyclones are to be expected in the southern part of the country.

Tax number of persons on the per capita rolls is 21,770, which is 1,420 more than shown by last year's census rolls. The payment is \$13.70 each. Those Cherokees residing at Muskogee (and presumably other points outside the nation) are not being recognized.

A DISPATCH received from Washington a few days ago states that the Delaware bill has passed the house, but with one of the railroad claims cut out. Opposition was anticipated in the senate but it was believed at least a portion of the invested fund would be permitted to be paid out.

This report is being repeated that the common offer at last fall's council to pay one dollar a head on imported cattle and that they are doing so, the extra fifty cents being divided among a certain ring. Does anyone know that this is a fact and can they tell who gets the extra fifty cents?

Old soldiers at a mass meeting in Arkansas City last Saturday passed resolutions which were sent to congress, asking that the Cherokee Strip be opened to settlement at once. All denounced any attempts to enter the lands illegally, and asked that they be only treated as other citizens.—Arrow.

They have modified their demands: at the first meeting they asked to be allowed a month or two's time in advance of the public.

It is rumored in railway circles that H. C. Townsend, General Passenger Agent of the Missouri Pacific, is to be made Passenger Traffic Manager of all the Gould lines. While Col. Townsend deserves the promotion and has the ability to fill such a place with marked success, many of the news-papers boys will no doubt have frequent occasions to regret the day he laid down the details of the General Passenger office.

### THE CHIEF'S ANSWER.

It is Discussed by Mr. Clinean, the Embassador.

CHIEFTAIN, I. T., Feb. 14, 1891.

EDITOR CHIEFTAIN:—I consider in the attitude I have been placed as the bearer of the cow-law petition to the chief—a duty I had much rather had fallen on some one else—that some words from me are due, not alone to the people of Coconowocooe district but to the entire nation in regard to Chief Mayes' answer to their appeal. As a person's friend it might be thought I would withhold what would be of most interest to the people. I was treated very courteously by his honor; he also spoke very frankly and expressed great willingness to hear any complaint the people might feel themselves called on to make. I must say, knowing that he has tender ground to tread on and, as stated in his answer, he would be glad to present the matter to the council, should it be called soon. As by two friends, the matter was thoroughly canvassed between us and his published answer contains his principal argument to me. In presenting the petition I stated that they contained over 400 names. About half were non-citizens but they had petitioned only in regard to that part of the cattle law referring to the \$1 a month on each head over and above what the law allowed. That they did this to show their feelings in the matter and did not wish to be considered as attempting to interfere with Cherokee affairs. As to citizens, their great objection was the time cattle were allowed to be brought in. I introduced the matter in an appropriate letter enclosed with the petition. To Chief Mayes I have no personal or political prejudice whatever and think with the construction or view he places on the law, as to constitutional, that a call of council will avail nothing to the interest of the common people.

As honest views and principles

cannot properly be censured—it matters not who utters them—I may be permitted to utter mine. Chief Mayes having within less than 65 days signed the law and founded up council for their long and expensive session and warned them that they were accountable to their constituents—in the face of this and other things asking him to convene council on even the gravest proposition, was a "dead-end." The chief's opinion on the law, as given in his answer, is most unsatisfactory. If, however, he did not know that common allusions and comparisons do not make constitutions, he had as well throw up his chances. No one can doubt but the Arkansas river is the line drawn by the first section of the cow-law, and that all cattle brought from west of said river into the Cherokee nation east of said river shall pay a tax of fifty cents. It is enough to satisfy the people when the chief magistrate of a nation is compelled to use "common allusions" to establish a constitutional opinion upon it. It is very clearly seen by the way the chief starts his answer that he wished to throw cold water on the request of the petitioners, stating that they were mostly non-citizens. This was conveying the idea, if possible, that it was only a white man's move and knowing on this account that prejudice could be easily aroused among the Cherokees and they be thus controlled. If I am not mistaken the people, heretofore and all, are thinking for the best at this time. Allusions will not be viewed with favor unless substantiated by clear proofs. If the non-citizens suggest ideas and volunteer to aid us in the right it certainly becomes us, as lovers of our country and people not to allude to them in a way calculated to injure them with the prejudiced class of the people. As to reference to the women in that part of the letter relating to class legislation, no explanation is given and 'twould have been better had the chief not mentioned it. The people are not asleep. How many women are there? Can they and their money control matters next August? Is it not a fact that the chief told the truth when he said he was at a loss to know what to say as to facts in this matter and at a loss to know yet, if he cannot explain better than he has. Experience should have been sufficient to have controlled his actions, aside from knowing that \$1 a head was professed by parties most concerned in the passage of this law—then signing for fifty cents a head. Joel, you have heretofore held out for the "biggest dollar" in matters of doubt, but when you knew to a certainty that \$1 a head could be got you softened up. Was any amendment offered or suggested? No sir; this will raise a revenue to pay us out and we will pass it if it does destroy the poor, hardworking farmer's cattle or the poor widow's last cow and let her children pleadingly look up into her face and cry, "Mamma, is there no milk?" Wonder if any of those councilmen were ever little fellows or headed a family. I allude to those who forced the law upon the people. Time will speak volumes if the cattle should die next summer as expected. My allusions in this matter do not apply personally, but to official and public acts. Understand me, we are not opposing the revenue part but must say that \$1.50 could have been got as easily as 50 cents. Under the old law March 1st was the limit; the difference is 45 cents in favor of the new law which to any common man is worth at a low estimate \$1.50 a head, considering losses sustained by bringing in in winter, feed, care, etc. Why not, then, demand this amount before signing the bill, when these facts were known? If not (observe allusions on the subject in answer) enough cowmen were consulted on the extension of time to have found out from. But I am not hitting the cowman, it's the law, and I wear the reader, I will close. Yours, as ever, J. K. CLINEAN.

### Farmers' Alliance, AND INDUSTRIAL UNION.

This department will be entirely under the control of the Farmers' Alliance and the proprietors decline any responsibility for the views expressed in the same.

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### Seems to Like Not The Chief.

MA. EDITOR:—Chief Mayes in his answer to the farmers' petition for a reconsideration of the cow law law entirely to meet the issues presented and refuses flatly to make any effort to relieve the cattle raisers—the small farmers of this nation and with one sweep of his pen he satisfactorily (to himself) disposes of the charge made that the law is "class legislation." There is no question but that the cattle king, including "Brother Sam," for whose sole benefit he seems to be running this government, will accept this answer with a whoop. We poor devils with our wives and children who make up nine-tenths of the population and without whom there would be no Cherokee nation see it otherwise, but must see the main stay of our business go to destruction in order to give the pets of the chief a chance to grow rich. He may be right in his interpretation of the law, for it is claimed for him by his friends that he is smart. This much was said of him more than fifteen years ago when, as a judge on the bench, he was the main stay of the record of the supreme court as an incompetent testimony in a case that he was trying, and contemporaneous history shows conclusively that he keeps an eye on the "main chance" by putting his family in all of the fat places of his disposal.

But the poor farmer, uneducated in the law, can only take the words as they appear and interpret them into the usual and ordinary meaning in which they are used. Now, if east of the Arkansas river means south of the Arkansas river the chief has got us and Canadian district is not affected differently from the other eight districts and the people of Canadian must bow to the cow king as we do. Answering the complaint as to the extension of the time for importing cattle, he freely admits that he was ignorant in the matter but having consulted the cow kings he became satisfied that it would not hurt them and signed the bill whereby it became a law, practically placing the cattle trade of the Cherokee nation in the hands of less than twenty men, citizens of this nation. Talk about Bob Owen's coal oil lease being a monopoly, then what combination of Latin or Greek would you get together to name this.

Mr. Mayes as a cider maker and small cattle raiser might be justified in risking his four or five hundred cattle grown on his farm in a venture of this kind but Mr. Mayes as chief magistrate of this people forgets his oath and loses sight of the sacred trusts imposed in him when he jeopardizes the personal interests of the poor men of the Cherokee nation as is done in the cow law. The cow kings could well afford to make him whole if he lost every hoof of his boasted four or five hundred cattle that have grown on his farm. He loses his dignity and becomes from his high estate and descends a shattering special pleader when he proposes to fortify his position and excuse his action, when he refers to the great expense of the case, and the expense of the old law. He says the law cost the nation \$10,000. Well, suppose it did, is that any reason why a new law should be made that will cost the people \$50,000?

For unblushing egotism, bad English, and poor argument this letter of the chief to himself and by itself. With his left hand he licks to his breast the cow kings, and with his right he pats the Alliance on the head and says: "I am of you; I sympathize with you; but these are my boys; I can't let them go." XXXX

### Change of Representatives.

CONVICT, I. T., Feb. 20, 1891.

MR. E. A. WARREN, President Coconowocooe county I. U.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—By the action of the recent meeting of the Cherokee nation Alliance I was elected president and therefore I feel it my duty to resign my position as one of the directors of the Alliance department of Tux Chieftain, as I consider myself severed from Coconowocooe county, as she could take no part in the state meeting as a county, owing her allegiance wholly to the territorial body, and after we refused as delegates to represent the county as such, and with the understanding that our action in the convention should only be individual and in no way bind our position as one of the directors of the Alliance department of Tux Chieftain, as I consider myself severed from Coconowocooe county, as she could take no part in the state meeting as a county, owing her allegiance wholly to the territorial body, and after we refused as delegates to represent the county as such, and with the understanding that our action in the convention should only be individual and in no way bind 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